

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, or claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 - 9 (Canceled).

10(Currently Amended). The vector according to claim ~~9~~19, wherein said vector is selected from the group consisting of an adeno-associated viral vector and a plasmid vector.

11.Canceled.

12(Currently Amended). The pharmaceutical composition according to claim ~~11~~20, wherein the carrier is a buffered saline solution.

Claims 13-18. Canceled.

19 (Currently Amended). A vector comprising ~~the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, a nucleic acid sequence encoding microutrophin under the control of regulatory sequences which direct expression of the microutrophin in a host cell.~~

20 (Previously Presented). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a vector according to claim 19 and a physiologically compatible carrier.

21 (New). The vector according to claim 19, wherein the microutrophin comprises an internal deletion of the native utrophin protein of hinge region 3.

22 (New). The vector according to claim 19, wherein the microutrophin comprises a C-terminal deletion from exon 63 through the C-terminal amino acid of the native utrophin protein.

23 (New). The vector according to claim 19, wherein the microutrophin comprises the N-terminal sequences of utrophin through at least two hinge regions, and a C-terminal region from repeat 22 through exon 63.

24 (New). The vector according to claim 19, wherein the microutrophin is selected from the group consisting of human microutrophin having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, canine microutrophin having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, and mouse microutrophin having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:5.

25 (New). The vector according to claim 19, wherein the regulatory sequences comprise a constitutive promoter.

26 (New). The vector according to claim 19, wherein the regulatory sequences comprise a muscle-specific promoter.